



## SCUBAPRO MK20 First Stage Communication

Thank you for contacting us regarding the SCUBAPRO MK20 First Stage Regulator. We certainly appreciate the opportunity to provide additional information and clarification on this matter.

Since 1996, tens of thousands of MK20 first stage regulators have been used by divers under rigorous conditions in both warm and cold water. When we first learned that a diver had reported a crack in and around the yoke thread area of a MK20, we immediately conducted an internal review utilizing our SCUBAPRO® Engineering Team. Simultaneously we asked the independent experts at Exponent Failure Analysis Associates to determine the root cause. Exponent is a leading failure analysis consultancy with technical expertise spanning a wide range of scientific and engineering disciplines.

Exponent has completed an extensive and comprehensive independent review and analysis of the MK20 design and materials, as well as detailed inspection and analysis of both the failed unit and properly working MK20s. They determined the crack occurred due to a combination over torque and exposure to an underwater environment. The crack may be initiated if exposed to over torquing and over time, a larger crack may develop when exposed to harsh environmental conditions and, in a small number of cases cause a failure.

As a result of these findings, SCUBAPRO recommends that all MK20s be updated with Universal Yoke Retainer (part number 10.103.115). This retainer transfers the mechanical load to the yoke retainer and not the body. This Universal Yoke Retainer and proper torque settings have been found to eliminate the stress placed on the body of the regulator at the location of observed cracking. This retainer will soon be available, free of charge, at an Authorized SCUBAPRO Dealer. A Dealer can be located via our website [www.scubapro.com](http://www.scubapro.com) or by calling 619-402-1023.

In closing, we work hard to earn the trust of our customers every day, and know that our reputation is based on what we do, not what we say we will do. That is why when we first learned of a problem, even though it involved a product no longer produced or sold, we took responsibility and immediate action. At SCUBAPRO diver safety comes first.

Please feel free to contact your local Authorized SCUBAPRO UWATEC Dealer or SCUBAPRO UWATEC if you have any further questions.

SCUBAPRO UWATEC  
North America